The instructing staff of an educational institution is made up, at least theoretically, of men peculiarly adapted to render great public service by conducting research of a fundamental character, *i. e.*, they are seekers after new knowledge, and yet, at the same time, are teachers and trainers of young men. It is important that these men be not withdrawn into purely industrial work by reason of the greater financial return offered by great corporations, or the acute pleasure which many red-blooded men feel in being professionally connected with great technical developments. Hence, the Technology Plan provides a method by which the staff is enabled to profit by contact with men of affairs and receive the inspiration which comes from the capitalization of effort, and, at the same time, fertilize and capitalize the instructional work of the teaching staff.

The institute, therefore, agrees that if the contractor has special technical problems requiring extended consultations, investigations, test, or research work, it will advise the contractor where and by whom such service can best be rendered. When one considers the splendid laboratories with which the Institute of Technology is equipped, covering as they do, almost every department of applied science, and its staff, trained in the use of such laboratories, it is obvious that much of the work will be done within its own organization. But it is neither the desire nor the intention of the Technology Plan to limit the contractor to the facilities of the institute. It is the hope of the Division of Industrial Cooperation and Research, the organization set up to handle the one hundred and ninety contracts already made, that it can enlist the interest of the great body of able consulting engineers throughout the country. When, therefore, consultations, tests, investigations, or research work are of such a nature as can be best furnished by established commercial organizations, the institute will advise the contractor where, in its judgment, the work can best be cared for.

The Technology Plan is, therefore, a more effective means of introducing technical research to the manufacturer; of making the application of science to industrial problems popular; of creating an appreciation on the part of the leaders of industry of the value of science and the necessity of providing, not alone for its application, but for its continued growth and development.

It is earnestly hoped that the plan here outlined will be adopted with improvements by other educational institutions for the benefit of both education and industry.

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DOLOMIEU

WE have again to thank Professor Alfred Lacroix, of the Académie des Sciences, for the publication of a manuscript account by the French mineralogist Déodat Dolomieu of his travels in Sicily in the year 1781.[1]

Dolomieu, who was a Knight of Malta, had in 1771 incurred the displeasure of the Grand Master of the Order on account of his participation in a duel, and was obliged to absent himself from the island for several years. During this time he came to Paris, where he became acquainted with many of the leading scientists of the period, and frequented much the Jardin du Roi, the forerunner of the present Jardin des Plantes. The mineralogist Daubenton urged him to undertake a geological trip to the island of Sicily and gave him much valuable advice as to the observations he could make there. In a letter written June 9, 1776, to his patron, Duke Alexandre de La Rochefoucauld, Dolomieu says that by pursuing his investigations under the guidance of Daubenton's notes, he believes that he would be able to make a collection of characteristic marbles, which he would gladly share with the duke (p. 7).

By 1779, Dolomieu had made his peace with the Order of Malta, and had returned to the island, whence he started in 1781 for his trip to Sicily (p. 8). In a letter of August 6 to his friend Chevalier Gioeni, a distinguished nat-

[1] "Un voyage géologique en Sicile en 1781, notes inédites de Dolomieu," by Alfred Lacroix, Secrétaire Perpétuel de l'Académie des Sciences, Paris, Imprimerie Nationale, 1919, 190 pp. 8vo.

uralist of Catania, Sicily, Dolomieu gave in the following brief paragraphs the main results of his explorations (pp. 10, 11):

1. I found no trace of volcanoes anywhere in the Val Demona. The neighborhood of Ali does not offer any volcanic material; the waters which supply the hot baths established on the coast are the only indications I have found of subterranean fires.

2. The Liparian Islands are exceedingly curious, and they well merit the attention of naturalists. An interesting collection could be made here of lavas and other volcanic products, but I did not have time to accomplish this.

3. The mines of Val Demona are grouped in a triangle of mountains which occupy the promontory of Sicily; all the veins traverse schist. They contain silver, copper, lead, antimony, zinc and mercury. But none of these mines have been exploited and it is almost impossible to get specimens. In my whole journey through these mountains I was only able to pick up a few pieces which I took from the outcrops of the veins.

4. The granites are present in great quantity in the mountains of Messina, and I believe that a part of the columns made of this rock which one sees in Sicily were quarried in these mountains.

5. I do not know whether there are real coal mines at Messina. I have only found a bituminous earth very common throughout Sicily.

We may note that Dolomieu was enough interested in the report that there was a deposit of beryls near the village of Gratteri, to visit the place. The locality was in a ravine which traversed a hill. Here a number of geodes had been found, resembling those of Grenoble in France. They had a triple envelop of black iron-ore, brown iron-ore and gray clay, and some of them displayed within polyhedral, transparent crystals. Dolomieu could only find a few unsatisfactory specimens, and was forced to buy some at Gratteri, where he had to pay as much for them as for genuine beryls. In reality they were either hyalin quartz, or the light-blue strontium sulphate called celestine (pp. 90, 91).

Déodat Dolomieu was born at Dolomieu, near Tour-du-Pin, in Dauphiné, France, on June 23, 1750. He died at Châteauneuf, near La Clayette, department Saône-et-Loire, November 16, 1801. Regarding the disposition of his remains, the following information is given by Professor Alfred Lacroix in his biographical sketch of Dolomieu.[2]

Dolomieu was interred at Châteauneuf, near La Clayette (Saône-et-Loire). His body probably rests in the vault of the Drée family, but his heart was placed in an urn (39.2 cm. × 23.6 cm.) of black porphyrite with large crystals of white feldspar, which surmounts a fine prism (1 m. 29.8 × 21.6 cm.) of basalt from Auvergne, itself supported by a pedestal of Albanese peperino and marble (violet breccia). This little monument, which formed part of the collection of his brother-in-law (Catalogue of the eight collections composing the Mineralogical Museum of the Marquis Etienne de Drée, Paris, 1811, p. 249), finds itself to-day placed at the entrance of the mineralogical gallery of the Muséum d'Histoire Naturel in Paris.

At the request of the Marquise de Drée, her brother's heart was, at the time of her demise, transported to her own tomb at Dolomieu. In the park of the chateau of Châteauneuf, she had caused to be erected a small monument formed by a block of the red granite of the country.

George F. Kunz

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE MACKENZIE DAVIDSON MEMORIAL

An influential English committee has issued an appeal which in part says:

The death of Sir James Mackenzie Davidson in the prime of life has deprived radiology of one of its most distinguished exponents, whose name is specially associated with the development of radiographic technique, and particularly that of stereoscopic radiography, and with the introduction in this country of the method of the localization of foreign bodies to which so many thousands of wounded men owe a deep debt of gratitude.

Mackenzie Davidson's reputation was international. In this country he was rightly regarded as the head of his profession, and throughout his career he was unsparing in his efforts to raise the

[2] "Notire historique sur Déodat Dolomieu," Paris, 1918, p. 83, note 85; Institut de France, Académie des Sciences.